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Dupont releases letter to Salvi

A statement distributed to the press yesterday by Gregorio Dupont and Raúl Ibarra was a copy of an anonymous letter sent to Judge Oscar Salvi which had apparently aroused Patricio Kelly's interest in "Aníbal Gordon". Dupont said that the statement had been drawn up by officers of the Buenos Aires Provincial Police force.

The letter traced the career of Gordon and other officers, non-commissioned officers, and civilians involved in the "dirty war" and which, it said, had also engaged in extortion, kidnapping for ransom, and the disposal of "booty" — property stolen from the homes of the various groups' victims.

According to the anonymous letter the police could not act freely to combat these crimes because they were firmly subordinated to the military. Among the police or military organizations it names as being involved in criminal activities as well as "fighting subversion" were the Navy's Mechanical School, Battalion 601 Intelligence, and the First Army Corps. It also says that a police officer who arrested members of the Gordon gang when they kidnapped a businessman was fired, while the gang members were released.

The author or authors of the letter accused the Gordon gang of being involved in the kidnapping and murders of Marcelo Dupont, Fernando Branca, Elena Holmberg — all three allegedly on the direct orders of Massera; the kidnapping, stripping, and robbery of three British journalists during the Malvinas War (they were found naked by the Panamerican Highway); and the murder of Dalmiro Flores during last December's "march for democracy."

Frequently mentioned is the chief of the Buenos Aires Police force, General Fernando Verplaetse, who is accused of running a racket in smuggled cigarettes from Uruguay and the choice of union leader Lorenzo Miguel to be the next commander-in-chief of the army. Miguel and Verplaetse meet frequently, according to the statement, with General Ramon Camps often joining them.

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